

## How to Become a Connect Group Leader (Fall 2017)

Thank you for expressing an interest in leading a Connect Group at Connection Point Church! The following information explains all you will need to consider when deciding whether or not to become a Connect Group Leader.

### **1. Qualifications:**

A. Complete a criminal history background check if you don't already have one on file at CPC. The ladies in the church office can help you with this.

B. Complete the IGNITE class.

### **2. Making the Commitment to Lead a Group:**

You will be contacted by a Team Leader about your interest in leading a Connect Group for the next semester. (OR you can contact Pastor Jim Walsh: [jwalsh@connectionpointchurch.org](mailto:jwalsh@connectionpointchurch.org), 765-463-0956, to volunteer to lead a group.)

### **3. Picking a Topic for Your Group:**

A. If you already have a topic or idea for your group, tell your Team Leader or Pastor Jim about it.

B. If not, you can pick from the list of ideas that the Focus group has made. You can talk it through with Pastor Jim or your Team Leader to figure out what type of group is a good fit for your knowledge, experience, and passion.

C. If you have an idea for a group, but you're not sure how to make it happen, we can help you formulate your idea and find a co-leader with the right skills to facilitate the group. We also have a few families willing to host a group led by someone else.

### **4. Planning your group:**

A. Will your group be built around an activity, a skill, a book, or a Bible study? *Note: All Connect Groups are expected to spend a total of 30 minutes or more each week in Bible study and prayer.*

B. Where are you getting the information for your group? Will you be following a series on DVD, using a book, and/or a using a study guide? Are you writing your own material?

C. What is the target audience for your group? *Note: Many Connect Groups are open to all adults, but some have specific people in mind – men, women, teens, young adults, older folks, married couples, children, etc.*

D. What day and time do you plan to meet? *Note: If you meet at Connection Point Church on Wednesday or Sunday evenings at 6:30 – 8:00 pm, the youth and kids Connect Groups will also be meeting at the same time.*

E. Where will you meet? Connect Groups can meet at the church building, in your home, in the home of a host family, or at a public venue. *Note: Space at the CPC building is reserved on a first come, first served basis, depending on when the forms are submitted. Wednesday and Sunday evenings are very popular and fill up quickly.*

### **5. To Make the Commitment:**

Fill out the above information on the Connect Group Leadership Form and submit it to the CPC office as a hard copy or by email. Deadline for forms for the Fall 2017 Semester is **Wednesday, July 26, 2017.**

### **6. Required Connect Group Leader Training:**

Attend the Connect Group Leader's training on **Wednesday, August 9.** Training is required for every leader, every semester, no matter how many times you've led before.

## **7. Follow-up:**

A. Once you have signed up to be a Connect Group Leader, you will receive regular emails updating you on pertinent information.

B. A team leader will stay in touch with you throughout the semester.

C. Pastor Jim Walsh is the Coach for all Connect Groups, and Mary Jo Anderson provides administrative assistance. The ladies in the church office can also assist you.

## **8. Photos:**

We will again include photos of all Connect Group leaders in our Connect Group Catalog. We will arrange to have a photo taken if you don't already have one on file.

## **9. Connect Group Sampler:**

We keep a short list of Connect Groups that will be open all semester for newcomers to visit – a “Sampler.” Please consider whether or not your group would work for a visitor to attend.

*\* Does your study build on itself from week to week, so that a visitor would not understand the material?*

*\* Is it your goal to develop a sense of safety or intimacy among your members, so that the presence of a visitor would be disruptive?*

*\* Is your space or equipment limited – such as in the kitchen – so that you will physically not have room for a visitor?*

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then your group is not a good fit for the sampler. The office team will ask you if you want to be part of the Sampler – it's your call.

## **10. Connect Group Fair: August 27, 2017**

The Connect Group Fair has become the most popular way for CPC members to sign up for Connect Groups. Each Connect Group will be given a table on Main Street to display items related to your Connect Group, such as any literature you will be using, a promo video of your study, or something related to the activity you will be doing. It can be as simple or as elaborate as you want – the main thing people need to see is YOU, the Connect Group Leader.

\*\*\*Please notify the office staff if you need any assistance. We can be reached at 765-463-0956 during the church's regular office hours, or by email, at [connectgroups@connectionpointchurch.org](mailto:connectgroups@connectionpointchurch.org).

## **Important Dates to Remember for Fall 2017 Connect Groups:**

\*Please see the document **Fall 2017 Connect Group Leaders: Important Dates** for a complete listing of all Fall Semester Events/Conflicts

Wednesday, July 26, 2017: **Deadline** for prospective Connect Group Leaders to submit forms:

Wednesday, August 9, 2017: Connect Group **Leader Training**.

Sunday, August 27, 2017: **Connect Group Fair** after the morning service.

Wednesday, Sept 6 – Tuesday, December 5, 2017: **Fall Semester**

\*\*\***Please Note:** Sunday evening & Monday evening Connect Groups will be delayed in starting for one week due to the Missions weekend and Global Prayer Event on the evenings of Sunday, 9/10 & Monday, 9/11.